



Attorney Docket No. 03660.P063

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

John Starr, et al.

Application No.: 10/045,503

Filed: November 7, 2001

For: Method For Selecting An Optimal
Balance Between Direct Cost And A
Number Of Suppliers

Examiner: Wu, Rutalo

Art Unit: 3639

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed August 18, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

January 18, 2006

Date of Deposit

Michelle Begay

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Signature

January 18, 2006

Date